sorting these out have derailed the schedule of the National Highway Programme;

(b) whether it is a fact that since the beginning of this financial year, April, 2006, as against a targeted award of contracts for 1,273 km. under NHDP-II (the North-South, East-West corridor), contracts were out for just 450 km.; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the action proposed thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) During the current financial year contracts for a total length of 845 km. have been awarded under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-II as on 31.01.2007.

(c) Some factors which have affected the award of contracts under NHDP Phase-II are as under:—

(i) Delay in finalization of Detailed Project Report (DPR) in difficult climate and terrain in Jammu and Kashmir;

(ii) Realignment of NH-31 and NH-31C in West Bengal and Assam because of Wild Life Sanctuary; and

(iii) Change in the procedure for approval of sub-projects under NHDP, Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC)/Cabinet Committee for Economic Affairs (CCEA) route instead of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) Board.

National Disaster Management Support System (NDMSS)

1149. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISRO propose to develop an advance disaster warning system i.e., the National Disaster Management Support System;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which it would help forewarn the people of coastal areas of Orissa and other States about the impending natural calamities especially floods, cyclones, Tsunami, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) ISRO, along with Ministry of Home Affairs, has established a Disaster Management Support (DMS) System, which provides space technology and aerial survey based information, virtual private network for connectivity and services for management of natural disasters to the concerned nodal Ministries in the Central and State Governments.

(c) In combination with complementary observation systems and analysis of the different data in an integrated manner, it would help to forewarn the people of coastal areas of Orissa and other States about the impending natural calamities especially floods, cyclones and draughts. For Tsunami warning system, a separate project is being implemented by DST.

Unspent amount under MPLADS

†1150. SHRI JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount remaining unspent so far out of the amount provided to ex-MPs under the MPLADS in the State of Bihar from year 1994 to year 2005;

(b) whether the said unspent amount has been clubbed in the amount allotted to sitting MPs or the amount is still lying with Nodal Agencies/ Central Government;

(c) if not, the reasons for not clubbing the same; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation releases funds under MPLAD Scheme. The District Authorities of the State Governments/UTs implement the works based on the recommendations of the Hon'ble MPs. Therefore, requisite information has been called from the Government of Bihar, which is awaited.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.